

Review on LED MR-16 Lighting Application - Indoor

“With great opportunity comes great obstacle”. This great opportunity is in the form of LED technology being used for lighting applications – the greatest obstacle is in the misperceptions of the market about LED lighting products.

In the case of MR-16, two clear misperceptions that we always hear are: “LED MR-16 is not bright enough” and “LED MR-16 can be used for general illuminations”.

The first misperception that “LED MR-16 is not bright enough” is due to the sad fact that our lighting market is flooded by the great tidal wave of cheap, sub-standard products being sold indiscriminately in our stores. A less known fact is that “Not all LED bulbs are created equal”. These cheap versions of LED MR-16 may light brightly initially, but in most cases within the span of 6 – 12 months, they become extremely dim. Some cheap versions do not even light brightly initially.

The second misperception is that “LED MR-16 can be used for general illuminations”. Although we would love to advocate this in order to sell our products, our conscience won't leave us if we were to do so. We are certain that there will come a time when the advances of LED technology will prove the statement true, but that time is has not come. However, to sweepingly announce that LED MR-16 cannot be used at all is also a falsehood.

The truth is that LED MR-16 is great when used for its intended application – indoor and outdoor accent lighting.

A friend of mine*, who is an avid art collector, has graciously allowed us to use photos of her personal collection of artifacts when being illuminated using Q-RAY™ 150lm (lumens) LED MR-16 bulbs. Similar to an art gallery or museum, the Q-RAY™ MR-16 bulbs were placed about 6 – 8 ft above the artifact, angled at about 45°. LED MR-16 is museum quality as it does not emit UV and has no heat radiating downwards onto the showcased objects.

To ensure that the effect of the lighting is not manipulated, the photos were taken with no flash and using ISO 400 setting. Some of the photos taken are as shown. Because Q-RAY™ LED lighting products have high Color Rendering Index (CRI), they are able to bring out colors in true clarity.



For outdoor accent lighting application**, one Q-RAY™ 150lm MR-16 when placed at an angle is able to light up a tree from grass level right up to its canopy.

In choosing LED lighting products, consumers must always remember that not all LED bulbs are created equal and that each LED lighting product has its intended application. For the case of LED MR-16, as shown in the photos, it is great for accent lighting applications.

* Photography by Grace Ensign Seidman. We would like to thank Grace for her contributions to this article.

** note: For outdoor application, MR-16 installation requires protection of an outdoor graded fixture against weather elements such as rain and snow.